The Press.

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THE PRESS,
PUBLISHED DAILY (SUNDAYS EXCEPTED)
BY JOHN W. FORNEY,
Office, No. 417 Chestnut Street.

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Which they offer for sale on the best terms for cash, or on the usual credit. Buyers are invited to call and examine their stock. 10 21-1f

BOOTS AND SHOES.—The subscriber has on hand a large and varied stock of BOOTS and SHOES, which he will sell at the lowest prices. GEO. W. TAYLOR, oct1-1y S. E. corner FIFTH and MARKET Sts.

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MINK MARTEN,
STONE MARTEN,
SIBERIAN SQUIRREL, FITCH, &c., &c.
Also, a choice selection of CARRIAGE ROBES, FOOT MUFFS, FUR COLLARS, GLOVES, &c., All of which will be sold at GREATLY REDUCED PRICES.
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415 AND 417 ARCH STREET.
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Has always in Stock a general assortment of fabrics for Gentlemen's Garments. Particular attention is paid to style and fit. All those who have experienced any difficulty in being pleased elsewhere are invited to call.
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Short and long handle Fry Pans; round and oval Bake Pans.
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SARMINTO, McGRATH, & CO.,
NO CHESTNUT STREET,
Call the attention of the Public to the change in their Business, from the
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On the same principles as the celebrated house of Brooks & Brothers of New York, to furnish the Public with the finest articles of clothing at as low prices as they can be measured for at the ready-made clothing houses, while our customers will have the advantage of
BETTER MATERIAL AND SUPERIOR ARTICLES,
both as to style and workmanship. We shall continue as heretofore to keep the finest assortment of goods in Philadelphia, and employ the best artists in our profession, and with the advantages we shall offer to the Public, of not making the paying customer pay for those who do not pay, and having always stood at the head of our Profession, we deem it only necessary to inform the public of the above change of prices, to command a full share of public patronage. oct-1m

NON-EXPLOSIVE BURNING FLUID.—We are now manufacturing, and are prepared to sell, a BURNING FLUID, which will not explode in the, opinion of the article. It has been experimented upon, and subjected to the severest tests before the best chemical talent in this city without a single failure; and we now confer it to be the safest, most economical and best burning fluid ever offered. A great desideratum has been attained.
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The Fair is easy of access by all the City Passenger Railroads and Omnibuses running West, and by an arrangement with the Germantown and Chestnut Hill Railroad Company, VISITORS ARE ENABLED TO THE FAIR FREE OF EXPENSE
The ticket price of Admission includes the ride to the Exhibition, and can be procured of the Conductors in the Cars of all the City Railroad lines. oct6-tf

TIP-TOP OF THE HIGHEST IMPORTANCE to those who know how to buy, and know where they will get the most for their money, especially such times as these. BIGLER & SMITH, Wholesale Druggists, corner of SECOND and GREEN Streets, are disposing of their WHITE LEAD (Ground Fairies of all Colors, and Window Glass, all of the best quality, at prices which will be pleasing to buyers. oct1

AWNINGS! AWNINGS!
JOSEPH H. POSNER, Awning maker, No. 448 North SECOND Street, above Willow, Italian and French Window Awnings for dwellings and office windows; Awnings for steamboats and ships. All kinds of Awnings, Tents, Bags, or any thing else always made to order by JOSEPH H. POSNER, Awning Maker, No. 448 North THIRD Street. Residence, No. 340 South FRONT Street. jy19-1m JOSEPH H. POSNER.

A Sermon.

BY THE BARD OF TOWER HALL.
Text—"Three wise men of Gotham Went to sea in a bowl."

How many wise men in their own conceit,
Outside of Gotham, on every street,
In every town and in every city,
Are found to arouse our hearts to pity.
The young man keeping away from school,
Regardless quite of parental rule—
Sowing the seeds of folly and crime,
To yield their fruits in his manhood's prime;
The man who is living alone for show,
Whose wife and children a shopping go,
For hoops and skirts, for bustles and bones,
For silks and satins to sweep the stones;
The man who is spending his time on law,
And without the brains to direct his jaw,
Who might with a lapstone earn his bread—
Yet, studying Blackstone, goes half-fed;
The man who from his pockets will borrow
A sum to-day and a sum to-morrow,
And stakes his gold on a game of chance,
In hopes that he may his means enhance;
The man who suffers with human ills,
And takes from quacks their powders and pills—
Thus spending money and wasting breath,
To make himself a target for death;
The man who steals, when he brings distress
On widowed ones and the fatherless,
Until his heart becomes *all-a-bone*,
Or hard as that, and as cold as stone,
To one who "goes to sea in a bowl"—
May Heaven have mercy on his soul!
For the weight of sin or folly will be
Too much for the bowl on the yawning sea.
The bowl will break, and beneath the wave
The voyager find an unsounded grave.
And his trembling lips, as he meets his fate,
Grow still with the bitter words, "too late!"
Yet only ask in return that all
Should purchase clothes at the Tower Hall.
And now we close, but we hope, indeed,
That all with profit our lines may read,
And follies and vices so control,
That never a man may "go to sea in a bowl."

BENNETT & TOWER, HALL CLOTHING BAZAAR, 518 MARKET Street, between Fifth and Sixth street, south side; Philadelphia.

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TO DEALERS IN OIL CLOTHS.
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is now prepared to offer great inducements to Buyers from all parts of the country.
A large and choice Stock Constantly on hand.
☞ Great care will be taken in selecting Goods, when order by mail.
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an28-3m* THOMAS POTTER, Manufacturer.

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BROWN, BLEACHED, & BLUE DRILLS,
HEAVY & LIGHT SHEETINGS;
Suitable for Export, for sale by
PETERSON & WELSH,
54 South FRONT ST., & 25 LETITIA ST.
oct5-1y

RICHARDSON'S IRISH LINENS,
DAMASKS, DIAPERS, &c.
CONSUMERS of RICHARDSON'S LINENS, and those desirous of obtaining THE GENUINE GOODS, should see that the articles they purchase are sealed with the full name of the firm.
RICHARDSON, SONS, & OWDEN,
As a guarantee of the soundness and durability of the Goods.
This caution is rendered essentially necessary as large quantities of inferior and defective Linens are prepared, season after season, and sealed with the name of RICHARDSON, by dishonest houses, who, regardless of the injury thus inflicted alike on the American consumer and the manufacturers of the genuine Goods, will not readily abandon a business so profitable, while purchasers have no redress on with Goods of a worthless character.
J. BULLOCKE & J. B. LOCKE,
my28-6m Agents, 86 CHURCH Street, New York.

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TO THEIR
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RICH DIAMOND AND PEARL,
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OPERA GLASSES.
SILVER TEA SETS,
FORKS, SPOONS, Etc.,
And every article appertaining to the table.
Visitors will always receive polite attention whether their object is to purchase or otherwise. no2-2w

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Have received, per steamers, new styles
Jewelry, Chatelaine, Vest Chains,
Splendid Fans, Hair Pins,
Fruit Stands, Sugar Baskets,
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Gilding and plating on all kinds of metal. se2-1y

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WM. WILSON & SON,
Having completed the alterations to their store, invite special attention to their stock of Silverware, which is now unusually large, affording a variety of pattern and design, unsurpassed by any house in the United States, and of
FINER QUALITY THAN ANY MANUFACTURED
FOR TABLE USE IN ANY PART
OF THE WORLD.
Our standard of Silver is.....935-1000 parts pure
The English Sterling is.....925-1000 "
The American and French is.....900-1000 "
Thus, it will be seen that we give 35 parts finer than the American and French coin, and 10 parts finer than the English sterling. *We melt all our own silver, and our foreman being connected with the refining department of the United States Mint* for several years, we *guarantee* the quality as above (935), which is the *finest that can be made to be serviceable*, and will resist the action of *acids much better* than the *ordinary silver* manufactured.
WM. WILSON & SON,
S. W. corner FIFTH and CHERRY.
N. B.—Any fineness of silver manufactured, as agreed upon, but *positively none inferior to the American and French standard.* se23-1m th s 3m

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CHICKERING & SONS, Manufacturers of GRAND, PARLOR-GRAND, SQUARE, and UPRIGHT PIANO-FORTES.
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Since which time we have MADE AND SOLD TWENTY THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED PIANOS.
And have received as testimonials of their SUPERIORITY over all others, 11 *Gold*, 13 *Silver*, and 4 *Bronze Medals.*
☞ Pianos to Rent, Tuned, and Repaired.
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Of most of the Terms used by Speakers and Writers on Medicine, and the Collateral
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Teller—JAMES R. HUNTER. se17-1y1f

GERMAN CIGARS.—200,000, various brands, in store and for sale by WM. K. EATON 216 South FRONT St. no6

The Press.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1858.

Irish Abductions.

The case of Mr. JOHN CARDEN, "a fine young Irish gentleman, one of the modern time," who was imprisoned, with hard labor, in 1854–'56, for forcibly attempting to run away with an heiress, in Tipperary, has suggested the idea of tracing the history of Abduction, as an institution, in Ireland. First, we would say that whenever we write a Dictionary, it shall contain such an item as this:

ABDUCTION, n. s. (Latin, *ab* and *duco*)—The forcibly running away with an heiress.—See *Ireland.*

For centuries it has been part and parcel of Irish privileges to obtain Sabine wives; to seize them by the right of the strong arm; wed them, in fear of a ruined character; and bring them home, rather exulting than otherwise, at the *éclat* of such a rough wooing. At the same time, it must be admitted that abduction is not exclusively confined to Ireland. It flourishes on other soils, but is indigenous to that of the Emerald Isle.

Rather, to be correct, should we speak of it in the past tense. As CARDEN's case shows, things are so changed in Ireland, that a man cannot run off with a pretty girl, to marry her, *by the enticement of force*—for, if he fail in the attempt, the law lays him by the heels, tries him, and punishes him!

Therefore, to be accurate, let us say that Abduction *used* to be one of the "blessed institutions of old Ireland." A man fancied a girl, (he did not much mind her beauty, provided she had money,) and, knowing that her relations would object to the marriage, summoned an armed party of friends who assisted him in running away with her. Taken off to the mountains, the lady had no alternative between disgrace and marriage; and, almost inevitably accepting the latter, (performed by a degraded clergyman usually called "a couple-beggar,") would return in a few days or weeks, as the case might be, and immediately take as matronly a place in society as if she had been solemnly married by a Cardinal in a cathedral! There were anti-abduction laws, of course, against those who "carried away maydens that be inheritors:" but the instances where prosecution or punishment followed are rare. Like the Sabines, the maidens got reconciled to their ravishers. On the whole, the offence was so popular that even "Abduction Clubs" were established.

As to the antiquity of Abductions. The earliest authentic record is dated about the year 1170, and is to the effect that the King of Leinster ran away with the fair and frail DEVORGLE, which led to her husband's soliciting aid from HENRY II, of England, ending, as every one knows, in the invasion and conquest of the "first gem of the sea."

From that period abduction became prevalent in Ireland. It was an outrage, confessedly—but so agreeable to the spirit of the times, so congenial to the ardent character of the men, so accordant with the romantic feelings of the women, that the gallant who accomplished this feat was looked upon as a fine dashing fellow, and the lady who was made the object of such rough wooing was rather gratified than displeased with it. So, no doubt, felt the Sabine maidens towards the bold followers of ROMULUS.

So in the olden time. In later years, within the last half century, much of the romance has evaporated. Formerly the abductions frequently were of the description var," which the bewitching Lady Heron sang for the entertainment of Marmion. The romance vanished, and, sooth to say, an Irish damsel, beautiful as Grecian HELEN, would have small prospect of being abducted, unless she had money or other tangible property. But if a gentleman or a farmer had a daughter, entitled to what was called "a fortune," his life would be a perpetual anxiety, from the dread that, with or without his consent, she would run a great chance of being run away with. Of course the wildest and most dashing were the fellows to perform such achievements, and it has generally happened that such had most attractions for a young and romantic girl.

At length the evil became so general that the Legislature had to interfere. In England as well as Ireland, Acts of Parliament were passed to punish abduction. The Irish statutes were much more severe than the English, as the offence was much more general. In 1684, the act was passed to punish all who "carried away maydens that be inheritors." This was drawn too mild, and another statute was framed in 1707, by which *foreible* abduction was made a capital felony. (This law was repealed only sixteen years ago.) There was legal provision, also, for punishment of all who, even with the damsel's own consent, should carry off an heiress, and one proviso went to prevent the abductor from enjoying any part of his wife's property—a clause which amounted to nothing, as, in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, an (Irish) wife, overflowing with affection, would contravene the law by giving her husband unrestricted power over all her worldly possessions. Lord St. LEONARDS (SUGDEN) once stated, when Chancellor of Ireland, that marriage-settlements in that country were worth nothing, as the wife would be kissed out of them or frightened out of them, whenever the husband was "hard up."

There sprung up, to evade the law which made *forcible* abduction a capital felony, a clever system of evasion. The law punished the man who ran away with a young woman. A practice commenced of putting the *damsel* before the man on the horse, and thus it appeared as if it was she who was carrying him off! There is a memorable instance of this which occurred in the higher classes of Irish gentry. Captain EDGEWORTH, a widower with one only daughter. At the ripe age of 16 and 15, these children declared their mutual love. The mother refused her consent. The young lady was an heiress, and her mother it was known would proceed to the utmost severity of the law against any one who should carry her off. Love has many expedients, and the lady, having first mounted on her horse, assisted her boy-lover to a seat behind her. In this way she ran away with him. They were married and forgiven. MARIA EDGEWORTH, the Irish writer, was a direct descendant of this marriage, and the writer of this article heard the story from her own lips.

At length, some seventy or eighty years ago the running-away system had become so general that an association was formed in the South of Ireland, called "The Abduction Club." The members, it was averred, were solemnly confederated under the obligation of an oath, to assist in carrying off such young women as might be agreed upon. The members were chiefly of the class, then abounding in Ireland, popularly called "Squireens," and consisted of the younger sons or relations of respectable families, well brought up, but with small or no patrimony, and too proud to earn their living honestly. They mingled freely in the pastimes of the peasantry, who (to use their own phrase) would "go through fire and water to serve them," and would assist them in any exploit, however wild or illegal.

The Club had spies in every respectable house in their district, from whom they obtained full information as to the presumed or ascertained extent of the girl's fortune, with particulars as to her habits and disposition, and the arrangements of the household. The houses of opulent farmers, as well as of the wealthy gentry, were under this *surveillance.* When a damsel was marked as eligible, the usual practice was for the members to draw lots or toss up for her. The fortunate man was immediately assisted by his confederates. He commonly contrived to make her acquaintance at a public ball, where he exercised all his talents to be agreeable, and, in the confusion of the breaking-up, would bear her away—sometimes in a chaise, but more commonly on horseback. This, of course, with or without her own consent. His friends would ride with him, as escort, and the usual termination (though there often was pursuit and sometimes recapture) was marriage. The abductor might say, with Glenalvon, "I'll woo her as the lion woos his bride," but it rarely happened that the lady, on her return home, brought the law to bear upon her ravisher—somehow or other the offences were many and the prosecutions very few.

The progress of civilization during the last forty or fifty years has nearly put an end to abduction. Such cases as that of Mr. CARDEN would have been scarcely talked about for two days, formerly. Irish novelists—for example, BANIM, LOVER, CARLETON, and GRIFFIN—have made use of the old abduction system in their works of fiction. In fact, it lives now only in memory.

The wonder in Ireland was, not that Mr. CARDEN should have endeavored to run away with an English heiress against her will, but that the law should have punished him for the attempt. For Mr. CARDEN had a fine estate of $10,000 a year; also was a magistrate, and popular as such; and somehow also had enlisted the sympathies of the ladies of Tipperary on his side.

It is within our knowledge, that, exactly ten years ago, an Irish gentleman, in London, was waited upon by a sheriff's officer, with a narrow slip of parchment, (technically called a *Ca. Sa.*,) by which the said myrmidon of the law was authorized to take possession of the body of the said Milesian, and it deliver into one of the debtors' prisons in London, described as belonging unto her "Sovereign Lady VICTORIA, by the Grace of God, and so forth," there to be detained until a certain debt was paid. The Irishman, who had a stout shillelah in his strong hand, acted impulsively, and knocked down the sheriff's officer. For such assault he was arrested, indicted, arraigned, tried, convicted, and sentenced to a year's imprisonment in the jail of Newgate. He made no complaint of the severe sentence; he only expressed a somewhat natural surprise that, whereas, in the wilds of Connemara or the bogs of Tipperary, the knocking down of an arresting limb of the law would have almost entitled him to the service of plate, or some other public testimonial, the same conduct should be viewed, by the law in England, as a misdemeanor. "Sure," he exclaimed, "there's no justice for Ireland in this. Time out of mind no writ could run in Galway or Tipperary. If we caught any Latitat hovering around, with the parchment in his pocket, it's to make him ate (eat) it that we would, and warn him, in a friendly manner, that we'd cut off his ears the next time he ventured within the barony. 'Tis not equal laws there is in the two countries, when they lock up for a twelvemonth in England for what I'd have had a round of dinners for doing in my own country across the Channel. Bad luck to the Union, that did not make their laws like ours—but made ours like theirs."

The Irish gentleman had full cause for complaint. The practice of law used to be very different in Ireland, as any one may see by reading LEVEN's novels, which, in descriptions of defying and evading legal process, are not exaggerated. With what confusion would the bold Milesian have hung down his head, were he still alive, on learning that CARDEN had been two years in prison for merely trying to carry off a pretty woman!

Religious Intelligence.

Foreign.

From exchanges just received, we learn that the Gustavus Adolphus Association—the largest of all the religious associations of Germany—at its recent General Assembly at Leipsic, its birthplace, embraced a representation of forty-one district associations, which latter have largely increased within the last few years. The prime object of these associations is the support of Protestant congregations in non-Protestant countries.

The Reformed Church of Germany, though comparatively small in the number of its participants, has of late commenced to hold General Conferences, which fact is regarded as indicative that the influence of the State on religious denominations is decreasing. The Conference of the present year met in Elberfeld; its main object being to bind closer together the membership of the German Reformed Church, a subject in which, as many of our readers are aware, that denomination in this country has taken a lively interest. At this Conference it was decided that only hymns, whose authors are known to have been truly regenerated Christians, shall be received. The next annual meeting of this body will be held in Hanover.

In Prussia, where the civil code grants a divorce for the most trivial reasons, the question in what case a divorced person can be admitted by the Evangelical Church to a second marriage is becoming a subject of lively agitation, and in fact throughout the State churches of Europe. According to *The Gazette* of Cologne, no less than seven hundred cases have occurred during the last year wherein the Church has refused to marry those who had been legally divorced by the State. It is proposed, in view of this, to bring before the next Diet the introduction of the civil marriage, as the only expedient to avoid a serious conflict between Church and State.

Three deputies of English Quakers, on their recent return from a mission to the Courts of St. Petersburg, Stockholm, and Copenhagen, have published in Germany, "A Word in favor of Liberty of Conscience," which, although the Society of Friends has hardly any professed members in Germany, is received by the more important organs of the secular press with great applause.

A Jesuit mission recently held in Graudenz, a fortified town of Western Prussia with some seven thousand inhabitants, for the purpose of reviving the Roman Catholics of that place from a state of indifferentism to a strong attachment to the peculiar doctrines of their church, has caused great excitement in those parts, by their having removed from the church in that town the following inscription: "All of us believe in one God"—a line from a favorite song of the old Ratio nalistic hymn book, where it reads,

"Wir glauben all an Einen Gott,
Christ, Jude, Heid' und Hottentott."

This act, although bitterly censured by many of the citizens, is as warmly defended by others, the latter, however, being in the minority, as it would seem from the fact that the Town Council has adopted, unanimously, a petition to the Prince Regent of Prussia, praying that the Jesuits might be forbidden ever to return to Graudenz. The more liberal portion of the press, those even who entertain anti-Jesuit views, oppose this proscription on the ground that the only way for truth to triumph is, for all parties and denominations to have fair play.

CHURCH DEDICATION.—The Tabernacle Methodist Episcopal Church, Eleventh street, above Jefferson, (which was destroyed by fire on the night of January 18, 1857,) having again been rebuilt, will be dedicated to divine worship to-morrow, as we learn from a very neat card inviting us to be present on the occasion. It was our privilege to be present at the opening services of the lecture room of that edifice, some months ago, and hear an admirable discourse from the Rev. Dr. Kennady, of Brooklyn, a sketch of which was subsequently published in *The Press.* The names presented